Castes and religious communities as minorities

†1409. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the castes and the religious communities recognised as minorities in the country;

(b) the castes proposed to be included;

(c) the other communities given the status of minority during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the norms being followed to give community the status of minority?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) The following religious communities have been notified as minority communities under Section 2(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992:—

1. Muslims
2. Christians
3. Sikhs
4. Buddhists
5. Zoroastrians (Parsis)

There is no proposal to include any caste in the list of minority communities.

(c) and (d) No community has been notified as a minority during the last three years.

Setting up of bio-gas plants in the country

1410. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family-type bio-gas (gobar gas) plants set up in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of subsidy given for setting up bio-gas plants; and

(c) the steps taken to promote bio-gas plants in rural areas?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) A cumulative total of about 3.16 lakh family type bio-gas (gobar gas) plants have been set up in the country during the last three years, *i.e.,* 2003-04 to 2005-06 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme—National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP). State-wise information is enclosed as Statement-I (See below).

(b) The details of Central subsidy given for setting up of family type bio-gas plants during 2006-07 are enclosed as Statement-ll (See below).

(c) The Government have planned a target of setting up of 66,000 plants during 2006-07 and in this regard have already taken several steps, such as provisions for Central subsidy to beneficiaries; turn-key job fee to corporate bodies and non-governmental organizations for providing free maintenance servicing of plants during the first three years of construction; training of users, masons, technicians and field staff; State level Bio-gas Development and Training Centres; publicity and extension; etc.

Statement-I

State-wise number of family type bio-gas plants set-up during the last three years, i.e., 2003-04 to 2005-06, under the National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP)

State	Total number of Plants set up during 2003-04 to 2005-06
Andhra Pradesh	47838
Arunachal Pradesh	489
Assam	4898
Bihar	972
Goa	304
Gujarat	19989
Haryana	3776
Himachal Pradesh	681
Jammu & Kashmir	109
Karnataka	27993
Kerala	17520
Madhya Pradesh	30596
Maharashtra	31427
Manipur	102
Meghalaya	1555

State	Total number of Plants set up during 2003-04 to 2005-06
Mizoram	455
Nagaland	825
Orissa	25681
Punjab	8577
Rajasthan	209
Sikkim	1449
TamilNadu	6808
Tripura	373
Uttar Pradesh	25182
West Bengal	42618
Chhattisgarh	10567
Jharkhand	1158
Uttaranchal	3691
TOTAL:	315842

Statement-ll

Rate of Central subsidy for setting up of family type bio-gas plants approved for 2006-07 under the National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP)

Category	Amount of Central subsidy for a bio-gasplant	
	One cubic metre capacity plant	2-6 cubic metre capacity plant
North Eastern Region States and Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam)	Rs.11,700/-	Rs. 11,700/-
Plain areas of Assam	Rs. 9,000/-	Rs. 9,000/-
Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal (excluding terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu; Sadar Kursoong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of the Darjeeling district (WB), Sunderbans, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Rs. 4,500/-	Rs. 3,500/-
Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe, desert districts, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, terai region of Uttaranchal, Western Ghats and other notified hilly areas	Rs. 3,500/-	Rs. 2,800/-
Others	Rs. 2,700/-	Rs. 2,100/-